# A Week of Festive Fun With U.S. Census Bureau Data

## Resource Description

Counting down to winter break? We've gathered a variety of festive Census Bureau data and creative Statistics in Schools (SIS) holiday resources and activities to spread the joy of learning with your class this holiday season.

## Monday's Theme: Festive-Sounding Places

### Festive Fact of the Day

In 2020, the population of Rudolph, Wisconsin, was 433, and the population of Santa Claus, Indiana, was 2,586. Are there any festive-sounding places in your state?

### Activity of the Day

Get your students in the holiday spirit with our Festive-Sounding Places Warm-Up Activity at <www.census.gov/programs-surveys/sis/resources/warm-up-activities/festive-names.html>. Students will examine a graph with population estimates for holiday-sounding places like Santa Claus, Indiana, and Rudolph, Wisconsin; organize them by geographic region; and answer questions about the regions with the most and fewest places with festive-sounding names.

### Creative Extension

Use the Census Bureau's History page at <www.census.gov/history/www/homepage_archive/2019/december_2019.html> to teach students cool info like the history of Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer. Have students check out the data and work in groups of three or four to create their own, modern-day version of the original Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer story. Each student will have 10 minutes to write the beginning of a story. Once time is up, everyone in the group will rotate stories and pick up where the original writer left off. Do this until everyone in each group has contributed to its version of the tale—and have them select one final story to share with the class. Students can take their stories home to add even more to them and share with a parent/caregiver.

United States Census Bureau

STATISTICS IN SCHOOLS
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# Tuesday's Theme: Toy Makers by State

### Festive Fact of the Day
There were 7,794 hobby, toy, and game stores in the United States in 2020. How many were there in your state?

### Activity of the Day
Our Toy Makers by State Warm-Up Activity at <www.census.gov/programs-surveys/sis/resources/warm-up-activities/toy_makers. html> teaches students key facts about U.S. toy manufacturers or, as we like to call them, the elves of the holidays in their state. Students are asked to imagine starting their own toy manufacturing company and decide where they want to locate their company —and why—based on the business statistics they discover.

### Creative Extension
Younger students can use our State Facts for Students data tool at <www.census.gov/programs-surveys/sis/resources/data-tools/ state-facts.html> to gather information on the hobby, game, and toy shops in their state. And older students can use our data tool at <https://data.census.gov/cedsci/> to explore the number of hobby, toy, and game stores in their state and/or county using North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) code 451120.

# Wednesday's Theme: Census Bureau Winter Wonderland

### Festive Fact of the Day
Georgia and Wisconsin are two states with places named after reindeer.

### Activity of the Day
Winter is the season to celebrate, reflect, exchange gifts, and give thanks. This Kahoot! game showcases festive Census Bureau data on stuff like imports of holiday decorations; population estimates for places like Santa Claus, Indiana, and Rudolph, Wisconsin; and more holiday-related stats. Play it at <https://create.kahoot.it/share/census-bureau-winter-wonderland/09d31784-b49a-4e8c-a830-72d4fbda797d>.

### Creative Extension
Have younger students use our State Facts for Students data tool at <www.census.gov/programs-surveys/sis/resources/data-tools/ state-facts.html> and older students our QuickFacts data tool at <www.census.gov/quickfacts> to gather and write down a cool fact about their state on a printable holiday-themed template at (tree) <www.printablee.com/postpic/2013/09/christmas-tree-stencil-template_212405.jpg>, (stocking) <www.printablee.com/postpic/2013/09/large-christmas-stocking-template_212404.jpg>, or (wreath) <www.printablee.com/postpic/2009/04/christmas-wreath-template-printable_145820.jpg>. Display their projects on a classroom bulletin board, door, or wall.

# Thursday's Theme: Learn About U.S. Holidays

**Festive Fact of the Day**
There are two places in the United States named Santa Claus: Santa Claus, Indiana, and Santa Claus, Georgia.

**Activity of the Day**
Introduce students to Census Bureau data with our updated Learn About U.S. Holidays With Census Bureau Data Kahoot! game at <https://create.kahoot.it/details/12557629-e784-4945-b66d-ee4fb64553ef>. Playing this game, they'll learn the number of hobby, toy, and game stores in the United States in 2020, the number of U.S. places named after Santa Claus, and which three states had the most chocolate makers.

**Creative Extension**
Use our resources to teach students about holidays celebrated around the world. Some activity ideas: Have younger students create a classroom diversity collage with images of different U.S. and international holiday celebrations they discover through online research or celebrate with their families. Older students can list two countries other than the United States they want to explore further. After doing online research about their chosen countries' most popular holiday celebrations, they can navigate to the U.S. and World Population Clock at <www.census.gov/popclock/world> to discover more information about populations around the world, and write a paragraph or so comparing U.S. and international holiday traditions, populations, and more.

# Friday's Theme: Fun Facts for the Holiday Season

**Festive Fact of the Day**
There were over 2,800 baked goods stores, 3,700 department stores, and 19,800 jewelry stores in the United States in 2020.

**Activity of the Day**
Which of these places has a larger population—Snowflake, Arizona, or North Pole, Alaska? Share a variety of holiday-related facts and figures with your students from our 2022 Holiday Season Fun Facts at <www.census.gov/programs-surveys/sis/resources/fun-facts/holiday-season.html> and check out additional activities for various grade levels in the accompanying teaching guide.

**Creative Extension**
Using a blank calendar template in Microsoft Word or another word processing software application, students can create a calendar of daily holiday-related facts to share with their families and classmates. In addition to our Holiday Season Fun Facts, students can discover holiday-related facts powered by Census Bureau data in our Holiday Season Facts for Features at <www.census.gov/newsroom/facts-for-features/2021/holiday-season.html> and in the America Counts article, *Yes, There is a Santa Claus—In Indiana* at <www.census.gov/library/stories/2018/12/yes-there-is-santa-claus-in-indiana.html>.